

ANSWERS

1. The CIA's polygraph research effort was comprised of an internal data collection program and an external experimental program. The internal program's goals were: (a) to develop a technology to objectively measure and classify the polygraph signals and (b) to assess the utility, reliability and validity of the polygraph to the Agency in its security practices for employment screening. The external program examined: (a) new sensors; (b) alternate modes of question presentation and/or subject response; and (c) various analytic techniques for chart interpretation. The external studies also addressed the issues of reliability and validity.

The external research effort was coordinated with DOD through attendance at meetings of the Joint Services Group established by the DOD to monitor research. Though the data base of the internal research program was not shared with the DOD members, they were kept apprised of technical developments and problems.

2. Though Agency sponsorship of the external research effort was often classified, the work itself was not and the bulk of it has been placed in the public domain through reports in professional and scientific journals. The decision to publish or not was left to the principal investigators who conducted the studies. By and large, the studies demonstrated that: (a) there is a rational and scientific basis for polygraph; (b) the polygraph is an effective detector of stress (though clearly not infallible); and (c) while several new sensors showed promise, none was sufficiently so to warrant changes.

The results of the internal research program are based on data pertaining to Agency operations and they therefore have not been disseminated to DOD elements generally. NSA has been briefed on the internal program.

The current research effort will examine techniques to identify attempted countermeasures. This program was only recently undertaken and there are no results thus far.

3. This question must be answered in two parts.

- (A) There are no peculiar training requirements that require an in-house training program separate from those of the FBI or the Army when training is considered to be limited to familiarization with the mechanical aspects of instrumentation, instrument operation and chart interpretation.
- (B) There are peculiar training requirements which indicate the advisability of a CIA in-house training program when the full scope of application of the polygraph program in CIA is considered. CIA polygraph officers are primarily intelligence officers and they are required to support the clandestine foreign intelligence operations of the Agency

STATINTL

ATINTL

4. No.

5. The polygraph interview situation itself serves as a disturbing stimulus to many people and the additional apprehension which may accompany the knowledge that they are being recorded or monitored is counter productive to the efforts of the polygraph examiner to put the individual at ease. For this reason only, the information is not volunteered by the polygraph examiner to each individual. The individual is told truthfully whether or not the interview is being monitored or recorded whenever the question is asked.

Following discussions with the Subcommittee on this issue, the Agency has initiated a procedure whereby each applicant will be informed in writing prior to polygraph interview that the polygraph test may be monitored and recorded for purposes of accuracy. We plan on including a statement to this effect in the polygraph agreement which is provided to each applicant before the test. A copy of the modified polygraph agreement is attached. This proposal has now been presented to our Office of General Counsel for coordination.

6. CIA releases information derived from polygraph tests only on request of federal employers. In fiscal year 1974, CIA disseminated information resulting from CIA polygraph tests in 7 cases. In each case, the individual involved was employed or assigned in a civilian or military capacity to a federal department or agency involved in sensitive intelligence affairs or requiring sensitive information in the national interest. Authorization to release this information was obtained in each case from the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence. Subsequent to the

authorization, information was passed verbally through established security channels for investigative lead processing only. The receiving department or agency was then to conduct its own independent investigation to substantiate the lead provided by CIA.

7. This question must be answered in two parts.
  - (A) The procedure followed by CIA in processing an applicant for employment has been structured so that physical examinations and psychiatric screenings are performed prior to the polygraph interview.
  - (B) The examinations are more than interviews. The examinations are good physical examinations which assist in the determination whether or not the applicant is physically fit for that category of duty for which he is contemplated. Applicants are also psychiatrically screened. Where a mental problem is indicated, a full-fledged evaluation is made.
8. Although the CIA orders its processing so that all candidates for employment are first given medical examinations and screened psychiatrically and believes this is a sound procedure, the CIA refrains from commenting on procedures of other government agencies in administering polygraph tests and from recommending a course of action to be adopted government wide.
9. Full and free discussions by CIA personnel with the PFIAB are not in any way inhibited by the fact that associated personnel are not polygraphed as a condition of employment or appointment.
10. The CIA respectfully refrains from comment on the applicant processing procedures of the Department of State,

the Defense Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The CIA has found the use of the polygraph to be a positive assistance in employment screening and personnel investigation. The loss of the polygraph program would have a negative and undesirable effect on the continued secure operations of the Agency.

11. There are only two positions in CIA filled by the President with Congressional approval. Appointees are subject to whatever screening procedures may be ordained by the President or suggested by Congress and approved by the President. Until the President directs his appointees to take a polygraph test there are no authorities in CIA to compel such action.
12. There are some advantages that could accrue if responsibility for polygraph examiner training were to be consolidated and standardized. Among these are:
  - Selection of best training personnel available.
  - Establishment of criteria for examiner qualifications.
  - A better overview of government's polygraph requirements and applications.
  - A potential for contact with commercial efforts on polygraph research, developments and application.
  - A pooling of experience.
  - A focal point for government sponsored polygraph research, development and application.
  - A possible financial advantage.